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AMERICAN NOTES.

The New York Herald of the 14th of October contains a detailed report of the interview of the South Carolina Delegation with the President at Washington on the preceding day, for the purpose of presenting memorials on behalf of Mr. Jefferson Davis and other political prisoners. It is as follows:—

Judge Wardlaw, Alfred Huger, and Colonel Dawkins, of South Carolina, yesterday afternoon had an interview by appointment with President Johnson. They were accompanied by W. H. Trecoff, who is here on business as executive agent of that State. The President, after the customary preliminaries of reception, invited them to be seated, when at once the conversation commenced by Judge Wardlaw informing him that they were a delegation from the State Convention of South Carolina, sent hither to present certain memorials of that body. These memorials had been very carefully considered in the convention, and he believed they told exactly the truth. The President inquired the object of the memorials. Judge Wardlaw informed him that one of them was in behalf of Jefferson Davis, Alexander H. Stephens, George A. Trenholm, and Governor Magrath. He said they had understood that by the late interference of the President, Messrs. Stephens and Trenholm had already been released from close confinement, and permitted to return to their homes. He would ask for Governor Magrath either a pardon, or that he might be released on his parole. They could assure the President no harm would result from such an act of clemency.

The President replied, that all could not be pardoned at once. The business must be proceeded with gradually, and an effort made to execute the law. A discrimination was necessary as we went along. It was a too common expression, by way of argument in regard to clemency, that such a one had been pardoned, and that he was just as bad as another who had not been pardoned.

Judge Wardlaw replied, that the delegation presented no such argument as that. The President said, sometimes the peculiar locality had much to do with pardons. Like many other things in human affairs, we cannot have a fixed rule. Much depends on discretion and circumstances. If we know ourselves, we know to what is best and just, and to show a proper degree of humanity on the part of the Government.

Judge Wardlaw remarked that they had not come hither to express their own hopes and desires, but as delegates from the South Carolina Convention to present the memorial of that body in a formal manner.

The President: We will, gentlemen, extend all the facilities and courtesies which the questions require. We would prefer to pardon twenty men than to refuse one.

Judge Wardlaw replied that they did not design to say anything with reference to Governor Magrath further than that they believed much good would result by the exercise of the executive clemency towards him. Colonel Dawkins said: If we can get Governor Magrath paroled it would be a great relief to him at the present time.

Judge Wardlaw thanked the President for having released Messrs. Stephens and Trenholm.

The President: We have that far, then, anticipated your memorial.

Mr. Huger said that Mr. Trenholm was one of their most useful men, and there was no doubt he would exert all his power with a view to entire harmony between the State and Government.

The President replied that he understood that was so; adding, if treason was committed, they ought to be made to determine the power of the Government to punish the crime. He was free to say that it was not a mere contest between political parties or a question as to de facto Governments. Looking at the Government as we do, the laws violated and an attempt made at the life of the nation, there should be a vindication of the Government and the Constitution, even if the pardoning power were exercised thereafter. If treason had been committed, it ought to be determined by the highest tribunal and the fact declared, even if clemency should come afterward. There was no malice or prejudice in carrying out that duty.

Judge Wardlaw remarked they were well aware of that.

The President, resuming, said there may be some unkind feeling on this subject, but it did not exist to any great extent.

Judge Wardlaw said, although not instructed by the Convention, he was induced to ask whether Mrs. Jefferson Davis, who was now confined to Georgia, could not cross to South Carolina to see her friends.

The President replied that he had received letters from Mrs. Davis, but they were not very commendable. The tone of one of them, however, was considerably improved, but the others were not of the character becoming one asking leniency.

Judge Wardlaw interposed by saying she was a woman of strong feeling.

The President: Yes, I suppose she is a woman of strong feeling and temper; but there is no intention to prosecute her. There is as much magnanimity and independence and nobleness of spirit in submitting as in trying to put the Government at defiance. True magnanimity takes things as they are; and when taken in the proper way I disconcert them from humiliation. Manifestations of temper and defiance do no good.

Mr. Huger remarked that they had a deep consciousness of the truth of all the President said.

The President, resuming, observed that the character of an individual may characterise a nation, which is nothing but an aggregate of individuals; and when a proper spirit is manifested all can act harmoniously. The man who goes to the stake is almost dignified by his bearing; it lifts him up above humiliation. In these cases, gentlemen, we will do the best we can. While there is sympathy, there is a public judgment which must be met. Yet I assure you, gentlemen, no disposition exists for persecution or thirst for blood.

Judge Wardlaw remarked that the tone of the newspapers was more favourable, and different from what it was. He then asked if the President had seen a copy of the amended constitution of South Carolina. Of course he had seen that we accept emancipation. He felt perfectly satisfied that the person and property of the negro would be protected, and spoke of the great difficulties of regulating labour and restraining vagrancy, &c.

The President thought many of the evils would disappear if they inaugurated the right system. Pass laws protecting the coloured man in his person and his property, and he can collect his debts. He knew how it was in the South. The question, when first presented, of putting a coloured man in the witness stand made them shrug their shoulders. But the coloured man's testimony was to be taken for what it was worth by those who examine him

and the jury who hear it. After all, there was not so much danger as was supposed. Those coming out of slavery cannot do without work. They ought to understand that liberty means simply the right to work and enjoy the products of labour, and that the laws protect them. That being done, and when we come to the period to feel that men must work or starve, the country will be prepared to receive a system applicable to both white and black; prepared to receive a system necessary to the case. A short time back you could not enforce the vagrant law on the black, but could on the white man. But get the public mind right, and you can treat both alike. Let us get the general principles and the details and collaterals will follow.

A conversation of some length ensued between the President and Judge Wardlaw and Mr. Trecoff, as to the legislation of the State necessary in reference to the condition of the freedmen, and to the scope and consequences of the Circular No. 16, and General Orders No. 145, from the Adjutant-General's Department, relative to abandoned lands in South Carolina and other Southern States. The examination of these subjects, it is understood, is to be continued at another interview.

The President said he must be practical, and come up to the surrounding circumstances.

Judge Wardlaw, Colonel Dawkins, and Mr. Huger all expressed to the President their conviction that the State had accepted in good faith the result of the issue which had been made; that the people felt that the President had once more united and happy, and that they felt confidence in his purposes and actions, and hoped in return to entitle themselves to his confidence as to their feelings and actions.

The President replied he was glad to hear it; that whenever such mutual confidence existed there would, he thought, be an open road to the restoration of good feeling and a prosperous condition; and that if he knew himself, and he thought he did, he would recommend nothing but what would advance their interests. So far from pandering or looking to future election, he must be believed when he said he had not an eye single to such preferment. If, he continued, I could be instrumental in restoring the Government to its former relations, and see the people once more united and happy, I should feel that I had more than filled the measure of my ambition. If I could feel that I contributed to this in any degree my heart would be more than gratified and my ambition full.

Judge Wardlaw: Every man in South Carolina would respond to that.

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Secretary of the Treasury McCulloch, in a speech on national finance, which he delivered at Fort Wayne, Indiana, on the 12th, is reported to have said that while he regarded an exclusively metallic currency as an irremediable thing, he looked upon an irredeemable paper currency as an evil which, though circumstances may render it necessary for a time, should never be permanently adhered to as a matter of policy. The present inevitable currency, he observed, which was a necessity of the war, now that peace had been restored should be brought up to the specie standard as soon as practicable, and he saw no way of doing this but by withdrawing a portion of it from circulation. He regarded the extreme high prices now prevailing as indicative of an unhealthy condition of the business of the country, and believed that unless Congress, at the next session, should authorize the funding of the legal tender notes, the country would ultimately be visited by widespread bankruptcy.

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served by the dull lamplight to be sitting uneasily in his seat. With face buried in his hands he would groan deeply, as if in unnatural sleep, then suddenly sit erect and stare boldly into vacancy. Finally languidly recline backwards, groaning and striking his forehead with his open palm as if in great misery. There were some twenty passengers in the same car. All noticed the strange bearing of the apparently unhappy man, yet all refrained from intruding on his inner thoughts. As the train neared Norfolk, however, the passenger suddenly stood up, took down his valise, extracting therefrom a razor, which he opened, displaying for a second its blade in the glare of the lamp. Then, with a flourish quick as lightning, he drew the blade twice across his throat, having exposed the part by casting back his head and whole frame, with a most piercing utterance of some exclamation utterly unintelligible to the horror-stricken passengers. In an instant the car was in the wildest confusion. Ladies were screaming and rushing wildly from the terrible spectacle. The unhappy man, still erect, and the blood spurting out on the seats, looked with a weird but blank and stolid gaze on what passed. The conductor was summoned by the fleeing passengers, who heeded not in their horror the grave danger that yawned beneath them, as they plunged across the space between the two cars, which were at the time rushing on in full speed. The sight of the conductor entering on the space of which he had been sole occupant for these awful minutes seemed to irritate the gory maniac, who now plunged about in a manner more dreaded by any human being. The conductor, seeing he could be of no possible use, and that the fury of the maniac intensified with every second of his presence, at once withdrew from the car, whose doors he had locked. In the meantime, the now lone and hapless man became more violent than ever. He bounded and plunged wildly about in the fastened car, kicking the windows, smashing the lamps and gratings, frequently attempting to tear up the benches, and then stopping for an instant, apparently from exhaustion, he would grasp at the escaping gushes of blood, and slap his face with both hands. A more horrid appearance never did man or beast present. When the cars stopped at the Norfolk station the officers set about opening the door, seeing which the maniac plunged headfirst through a window, carrying fragments of glass with the frame on his shoulders, and apparently receiving a severe shock by the violent fall, which was one of several feet. Recovering himself, he attempted to escape and ran swiftly, but some half-dozen of the breakmen followed quickly with clubs and other weapons. The madman then turned upon them, casting stones, bricks, and, in fact, a perfect shower of all sorts of available missiles, appearing to possess superhuman power. The light of day being yet dim, the projectiles flew wide of the breakmen, and, fortunately, none were hurt. About twenty minutes after the escape from the car the poor maniac fell down in a faint. The men, upon running forward, found him flat upon the ground, foaming from the mouth, surrounded with blood. The bleeding had been stopped by the cold air, but upon being moved into the inside of the car it commenced afresh, whereupon Dr. Mussey, a Cincinnati physician, occupying a berth in the sleeping car, was called in, who stanching the bleeding by applying persulphate of iron. The patient becoming uneasy and violent again, it was found necessary to post four men to hold him still on the berth till the arrival of the train in this city, about 6 o'clock in the morning. From the depot he was conveyed upon a litter to Bellevue Hospital, where he was received without the usual quietude of recovery, owing to the desperate nature of his case. He lay dull and lifeless, and did not speak for many minutes after arriving at the wardens' quarters. It is said that he wrote upon a card that he attempted death in that manner to avoid a more horrid one in pursuance of his philosophy. This is not certain, however. At half-past 7 W. H. Birkhead, surgeon of the hospital, was called upon. He had the patient conveyed to a proper ward, examined the wound, found he had used both a razor and a knife, and that all the small veins were cut, the gash being across the windpipe at the point known as Adam's apple. None of the principal arteries, however, were cut, and Dr. Birkhead, not at all despairing of recovery, dressed the wound, and, inserting the several parts together, and inserting the left still open, to enable the doctor to staunch a new hemorrhage, should it set in. In two days it is intended to close the outer wound, if all goes well. It is miraculous that so much of life survives; but, as it is, though the case is serious, it is not believed to be the worst case that has been at the hospital treated successfully. The wounded man, on arriving at the hospital, asked for a priest. Father Hecker arrived and recognised an old friend, Mr. Hamill being a young priest from Newburyport. His uncle is also a priest, and his father is a well-to-do business man. The family are respectable, and the young man, who is only ordained a short time, being in the full vigour of youth, probably twenty-eight years, was, in college and on the mission, considered an exemplary young man.

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his mother and afterwards his sister with a piece of iron bar, and afterwards hit them repeatedly while they were lying on the pavement, on which they had fallen. The deaths of both ladies must have been instantaneous.

The Hunters lived in family at 6, Dalrymple-crescent, Grange, in a house built by one of the family, several of whom are engaged in business as builders, and have built many of the handsome villas which have of late been erected in this flourishing suburb. The elder sons, being engaged in business on their own account, have left their parental home, and are now residing in houses of their own. The members of family residing in Dalrymple-crescent were—Mr. Hunter, the father of the family, who is well known in the south side of the city, where he has for many years carried on business as a sculptor; Mrs. Hunter, aged 68 years; Elizabeth Hunter, an unmarried daughter, aged 42; John Hunter, aged about 30; and a younger brother, named David, who was employed in his father's yard at the end of Grange Road.

Regarding the past history of the unfortunate man John Hunter, whose eccentric disposition exhibited so awful a development yesterday forenoon apparently for the first time in his life, little can be learned. From childhood he has been weakly in body, and of a slightly imbecile appearance; but in his boyhood he exhibited some marks of promise, and was taken into his father's yard, where he made considerable progress in the business of stone-cutting and sculpture, the productions of his chisel exhibiting, even after a brief education, considerable skill and taste in execution. His uncertain health and unsettled disposition interfered materially with his progress, preventing the constant application necessary to great success in art. About six years ago, he began to manifest more marked signs of restlessness than he had before exhibited, and left his father's house, whether with or without his father's consent, we have been unable to learn, and was absent for three weeks in England. At the end of that time he was brought home by an elder brother, now in business as a builder, and since then he has been constantly kept within the house. His friends are naturally disinclined to give information regarding his condition during that time, and his confinement has been so close that his habits were entirely unknown to the residents in the Crescent, his existence being known apparently only to a few families. We are, however, assured that his fatuity has never hitherto exhibited itself in any violent form. He was sad, depressed, and studious, reserved even to the members of his own family, and occasionally sullen in disposition. At other times his mania assumed a religious form—he read deeply in theological literature—and sometimes carried himself out in important Scriptural passages. He was treated with kindness by the members of his family. Those who knew him and his friends testify that his every wish was gratified by his indulgent parents. This course of treatment, meant in kindness, and dictated by a love intensified by the young man's misfortune, appears not to have operated beneficially on his unhinged mind. Of late he had become wilful in his disposition, and could not bear to be crossed in his purposes or wishes. Within the last few days he had been unusually restless. On Wednesday he had made his way from the house to the flower-plot in front—a most unusual occurrence—and was observed from a neighbouring house leaning on the parapet and railings next the street, and leaving in a most exciting way. Dr. Newcome, a medical man residing in the house immediately adjoining No. 6, was one of those who noticed his wild appearance, and is reported to have remarked that he was not then a fit person to be at large. His appearance was sufficiently striking and uncouth as to cause some alarm, but more on his own account than as regarding the safety of those about him. He is a man rather under the middle stature, his body emaciated and the reverse of muscular, his face pale and slightly pinched-looking—the result, no doubt, of his long confinement within doors and of his studious habits. The most remarkable feature in his appearance are a rather excited look about the eyes, and remarkably long dark hair, apparently the growth of several years, which reaches down over his shoulders.

Yesterday morning the prisoner was as usual left alone in the house with his mother and sister. So far as we can learn his behaviour was quiet and peaceable, certainly not such as to cause any apprehensions of his becoming unmanageable, or using violence. At half-past 9, his brother David left him in the house, apparently in his usual harmless disposition. There seems, however, reason to believe that even then he was meditating a plan of escape from his home confinement. It is certain that, before leaving the house, as he afterwards did, he had armed himself to oppose any attempt to detain him. About twenty minutes past 10 o'clock a medical man residing in the house of the house, but headed, as on the previous day. He passed through the flower-plot, and had issued from the gate upon the road when he was overtaken by Mrs. Hunter and Miss Hunter, who had followed him. Mrs. Hunter exchanged a few words with him, apparently in remonstrance against him leaving the house. Then, laying her hand on his shoulder, she seemed as if endeavouring to persuade him to return, when turned rapidly round upon her, and, raising a piece of iron bar, about 18 inches long, and slightly over an inch in diameter, he struck her heavily on the left side of the head, behind the ear, falling her instantaneously to the ground. Miss Hunter then rushed forward, raising her hands in horror, and was rescued in the same way by the maniac man, who was now worked up to a pitch of great excitement. Miss Hunter followed the corpse of her mother, who seems to have been killed instantaneously, and the murderer, stooping over her, repeated his blows several times. The horrid deed was not observed by any person within hearing of the murderer; but a mason, who was working at a distance of about 100 yards down the road, hearing a heavy thudding noise as if of blows, looked round. Seeing the two bodies lying on the ground, and Hunter walking about excitedly in the flower-plot, he suspected the nature of what had been done, and shouted out to Hunter, at the same time making his way towards the spot where the dead bodies were lying. The murderer, apparently thoroughly scared, made for the back garden, forcing his way through the shrubbery, and took refuge in a greenhouse, concealing the iron bar under his coat. The alarm rapidly spread, and a large number of the neighbours, some on the spot, among whom were Messrs. W. B. Gemmel and Dr. Newcome, both residents in the Crescent. The two ladies, though the bodies were still warm, were found to be quite dead. Information of the dreadful tragedy was at once dispatched to the police-station. No attempt appears to have been made to secure the maniac, until the arrival of the police. The crowd which had gathered in front of the house, although it included a number of able-

bodied workmen, appeared so paralysed by awfulness of the crime which had been committed, and at the same time so much alarmed by the appearance of the criminal, who was known to have about him the weapon with which he had committed the double murder, that none ventured to approach him, and he remained in his retreat in the greenhouse until several policemen arrived, accompanied by his father, Mr. Hunter, and an elder brother of his own. His brother called upon him to come out, which he did apparently with sullen unwillingness. He was immediately seized, and the iron weapon before described, which he had concealed under his clothes, was taken from him. The prisoner showed no grief for the death of his mother and sister. He appeared unconscious of what he had done, or stolidly indifferent to the dreadful tragedy in which he had played so horrible a part, and the awfulness of his own position. He refused to speak in answer to the questions put to him, and sulkily accompanied the officers who took him in charge, offering no resistance to any treatment he received, excepting a repeated and impatient refusal to wear a hat, which was offered to him before being conveyed to the cab in which he was taken to the central police-station. In explanation of his refusal to wear a hat, it is stated that the prisoner had not used any covering on his head for several years.

The prisoner, after being taken to the police station, was transferred over to the hands of the Procurator-General. In the course of the afternoon, the prisoner was taken to the house in Dalrymple-crescent, where he was examined in presence of Sheriff Jamieson. He gave no answer to the questions put to him, and maintained a dogged silence throughout the proceedings, which, in consequence of his refusal to speak, were of an entirely formal nature. On being shown the corpses of his mother and sister he averted his eyes, and appeared for the moment slightly distressed, but he made no remark, and almost immediately resumed his appearance of stolid indifference. On being asked to return to the County-buildings by Mr. Ferguson, sheriff's officer, he replied listlessly, "I darsen't I will." He was then formally committed, and conveyed to Carlton gaol. In the afternoon and evening the prisoner continued to exhibit the same stolid behaviour.

In the evening a post mortem examination of the bodies of the two ladies took place in the house in Dalrymple-crescent, in presence of Dr. Littlejohn, Dr. Cochrane, Dr. Macadam, and Dr. Newcome. The bodies were found severely contused about the head, and the result of the examination showed that death had been caused by repeated heavy blows with a blunt instrument, such as that which was found upon the prisoner.

PAITENING ANIMALS IN A HURRY.

(From the American Country Gentleman.)

We have pointed out in former years the futility of attempts to lay heavy masses of flesh on poor cattle by stuffing them with rich food. Such attempts not only prove to be failures, but are always wasteful. The material consumed is nearly lost, the animals remain comparatively poor, and the owners are convinced that fattening animals for market "don't pay."

It is perhaps not for the cause of good management that all neglected treatment of animals should result in loss to the owner. If he has starved his cattle, sheep, and pigs for a year or more, he cannot atone for it by sudden attempts to push them to fatness. On the contrary, the only true way is to see that growth continues without cessation, summer and winter, from the earliest period of their existence till they are finally sold in market. A single check given to this continued progress may arrest or retard it for months. Our own observations lead us to the opinion that the whole profits resulting from raising and fattening, when this continued progress is kept up by careful, regular, but not extravagant feeding, are at least triple the amount realised from early neglect and heavy feeding afterwards—and often the difference is many times greater than here stated.

There is nothing that should be more strongly impressed on the mind of the young farmer who makes the feeding of animals a prominent part of his business, than the importance of keeping up an unremitting growth throughout the whole course of their existence. The most successful pork-raiser with whom we are acquainted, adheres strictly to this course; not only feeding his store pigs well and regularly through fall and winter, but commencing the fattening not merely in autumn, as is too commonly the case, but early in the spring.

It is objected that this management is too expensive. This objection is urged by those who find two or three months only to consume more than they can afford. They feed heavily for a short time, but do not receive a corresponding return of increased flesh. "If two months' feeding," they inquire, "costs us so much money, how can we ever afford to continue it for two or three years?" It is very true that it does not, because the whole system they adopt is a profitless one. Fortunately it does not require heavy feeding to keep up the continued growing condition of animals. Here is a great error into which many have fallen, which we have endeavoured to correct. John Johnson made the remark some years ago that the copious feeding of grain or meal to cattle is no better than a moderate amount. We gave the statement some years ago of experiments performed by G. H. Chase, of Cayuga, who carefully weighed every week all his fattening animals. A daily supply of four quarts of barley meal to a fine steer gave a weekly increase in weight averaging eighteen pounds. A neighbour advised him to push him, and eight quarts were accordingly fed daily. The weekly increase of flesh was less than when he received four quarts. The amount being increased to twelve quarts per day, he gained nothing at all. Several similar instances have come to our knowledge, and among them a fine animal was recently fed by a neighbor with a peck or more of rich meal per day. The result was, after several weeks, he was sold for less than he would have been if he had been fed with a moderate amount of good food. The labour of which he had been liberally supplied went for nothing.

Successful fattening, having long since ascertained that animals in fine condition will lay on more than the amount of food eaten than those of inferior character. Hence shrewd men will not purchase lean and raw-boned animals for fattening. This fact serves to establish the truth that all animals at all stages of growth should be kept fleshy. It need be scarcely necessary to remind any intelligent manager, that the difference between attending to all the comforts of an animal by cleanliness, good wholesome food given regularly and in moderate quantity, and neglecting all these particulars, is simply the difference between those in fine healthy condition and such as are feeble and raw-boned. It may be laid down as true, with scarcely an excep-

tion, that the world was hitherto amused and abused with the story that forgery and perjury were diseases of the mind, which like the cholera of the body were special and peculiar to the Indian soil. Regarding the latter medical history is decided on the point, that though it first commenced in the marshes of Jessore, yet the range and virulence of its progress are unchecked by geographical limits. But concerning the former, a mystery still hangs over their paternity, and they must be very briefly acquainted with modern events who jump hurriedly—and we should say also indecently—into the conclusion that the country of the notorious Nund Coomars, and not that of the still more notorious Hastings, is responsible for an invention the patent of which now appears to be in the hands of every nation. At all events even admitting that the Hindoos were the early teachers of the art of lying and the art of fabricating spurious documentary evidence, they have been now completely left behind by disciples in other climes who, with the vigour and freshness of a recent civilisation, have improved wonderfully upon their models. Look at the Roupel forgeries—at the forgeries of Edwin James—and the numerous other examples of heroic swindling with which abound and overflow the Newgate calendars. But whatever the temptations to forgery and perjury to the dissolute and the starving, to the men of low principles and pressing want, to the criminal hardened in every vice and defying every virtue, we were hardly prepared to witness the transfer of the vigorous talent to arenas resorted to with jealous watch and ward for the most honourable and dignified specimens of the national mind. Forgery in trade or forgery in the development of ways and means by the ruined profligate and the famishing drone, can be accounted for by a reference to human necessity or human depravity. But the accumulation of political capital through its despicable agency has scarcely yet been attempted in any country save recently in England, and unfortunately it is an Indian subject which supplied the motive for the foul deed. Sir John Lawrence, it is well known, has made himself obnoxious to a most influential English party. The saviour of India, now that he is Governor-General of India and placed in a position of power and importance which attracts to him the envy of former comrades and the hate of former adversaries, is a mark for the most impudent and the most outrageous attacks of a certain section of the English Press. His sympathies for the ryot in an age in which the wealth of a bloated oligarchy has succeeded in establishing theories of political economy subversive of the rights of humanity, have procured him the virulent animosity of the zemindars as well as the colonist. The friend of the ryot fares awkwardly in a world in which the predominant and favourite idea now seems to be the reduction of the labouring population to a dead level of powerless and painful pauperism. The blessings of the poor can make a great man happy but they seldom can shield him from petty malice or the combined revenge of those whose wealth gives them the means of annoying and injuring in large degrees. The policy of Sir John Lawrence may endear his name to posterity, but it has not failed to procure him many and bitter enemies, men possessed of formidable batteries of offence,

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